

## **Hermitage Army Headquarters - Second Division, April 20, 1808, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

### **JACKSON'S DIVISION ORDERS.**

Hermitage, April 20, 1808

From General Thomas Johnstons advice of the 3rd, instant, and William Meadows Statement under his hand of the 18th, instant it appears that 25 of our innocent Citizens has fell victims, to the ruthless hands of Savage barbarity, and from strong circumstances it appears that the Creeks who have perpetrated this horrid Massacree has been excited to this hellish act, by the instigation of whitemen agents under foreign influence, who have stimulated those barbarians to lift the scalping knife and Tomhawk against our defenceless women and Children. it is stated by Mr, Meadows that a hostile band of Creeks to the amount of four hundred and forty with twelve whitemen are encamped on the south bank of Tennessee. on the 3rd, instant they attack Colberts boat, having five men on board killed two and wounded three, one of which was since dead, and on the 5th, Massacreed three whole families twentyone in number, three miles below the mouth of Duck. this brings to our recollection the horrid barbarity committed on our frontier in 1777 under the influence of and by the orders of Great Britain, and it is presumeable that the same influence has excited those barbarians to the late and recent acts of butchery and murder, but the blood of our innocent Citizens must not be shed with impunity. prepare then for retaliation. the relation of this horrid scene will rouse our countrymen. they will pant for the orders of our goverment to punish the ruthless foe, who has deprived us of our fellow Citizens of our Brothers our wives and our children and the influence that gave it birth. You will therefore without delay place your Brigade in compleat readiness to march at a minutes warning. you will have the voluntiers within your Brigade in readiness to

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march at a very short notice, provided the defence of our frontier and imperious necessity should from information to be recd. make it a measure of defence to dislodge this hostile marauding band from the present position they now Occupy. you will hold your Brigade in compleat readiness untill further information is recd, from the mouth of Duck River and untill further orders from me and from the goverment.